COMMUNITY

Pages 2 –
Clark Park Presents 12th Annual Winter Carnival and Hockey Classics

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS

Page 10 –
Lions Hosting LA Rams !!!

¡Los Michigan Wolverines, son Campeones Nacionales!

Por EL CENTRAL

Después de un año en el que el entrenador en jefe Jim Harbaugh fue suspendido por 6 juegos (3 al principio por el Departamento Atlético de la Universidad de Michigan y 3 al final de la temporada por la NCAA por acusaciones de robo de señales), los Wolverines terminaron la temporada 15- 0, y han ganado el Campeonato Nacional.

Este es el primer Campeonato Nacional de los Wolverines desde 1997. Esto también marca la primera vez en la historia de la escuela de la Universidad de Michigan que tiene marca de 15-0 en una temporada.

El RB #7 de los Wolverines, Donovan Edwards, también se convirtió en el primer jugador en anotar TDs en cada dos de sus primeras posesiones, en el juego del Campeonato Nacional en la era BCS/CFP.

Esto tardó mucho en llegar para los Wolverines de la Universidad de Michigan, después de perder los últimos dos años en las semifinales de los playoffs.

Los Wolverines derrotaron a los Washington Huskies 34-13, frente a 72,808 aficionados, en el NRG Stadium de Houston, TX.

mas fotos en la pág. 8-9

Michigan Wolverines, National Champions!

By EL CENTRAL Staff

After a year that saw head coach Jim Harbaugh being suspended for 6 games (3 in the begining by the University of Michigan Athletic Department, and 3 to end the season by the NCAA for sign stealing allegations), the Wolverines have finished the season 15-0, and have won the National Championship.

This is the Wolverines first National Championship since 1997. This also marks the University of Michigan's first time in school history to have gone 15-0 in a season.

Wolverines RB #7 Donovan Edwards has also become the first player ever to score TDs in each of his first two possessions, in the National Championship game in the BCS/CFP era.

This was a long time coming for the University of Michigan Wolverines, after losing the past two years, in the Semi Final Playoff games.

The Wolverines defeated the Washington Huskies 34-13, in front of 72,808 fans, at NRG Stadium in Houston, TX.

more photos on pg.8-9

University of Michigan Wolverines head coach Jim Harbaugh lifting the NCAA Football National Championship trophy, with his Wolverines, after defeating the Washington Huskies 34-13. Photo provided by Suzie C. Baker

El Estado de Michigan podría permitir el paso de sustancias peligrosas en el puente Ambassador

Por Brian Allnutt, tomado de Planet Detroit

El alcalde de Detroit, Mike Duggan, y más de 30 funcionarios estatales y locales apoyan una propuesta que permitiría nuevas clases de sustancias peligrosas en el puente Ambassador (de propiedad privada), que conecta Detroit con Windsor, Ontario. Los funcionarios enviaron cartas al Departamento de Transporte de Michigan durante los últimos siete meses, apoyando la medida.

The Detroit International Bridge Company sostiene que permitir materiales peligrosos de clase 3 y clase 8 disminuirá la distancia de transporte de los mismos, reduciendo el riesgo de derrame. Tras el cierre del ferry de camiones Detroit-Windsor en septiembre, los camiones que transportaban las sustancias han usado el puente Blue Water en Port Huron, aproximadamente a 60 millas de Detroit. Aunque materiales radiactivos, gases inflamables y explosivos seguirían prohibidos a petición de la empresa.

Los materiales de Clase 3 incluyen líquidos inflamables y combustibles como pintura, y la Clase 8; materiales corrosivos como baterías de ácido-plomo y desengrasantes.

Sin embargo, algunos legisladores y defensores de la comunidad que se oponen a la medida exponen que el puente de 93 años carece de la infraestructura de seguridad de los puentes más nuevos, lo que representa un riesgo para los vecindarios densamente poblados tanto del lado estadounidense como canadiense. El puente Gordie Howe, a unas dos millas del puente Ambassador, permitirá el movimiento seguro de estos materiales cuando se inaugure en 2025.

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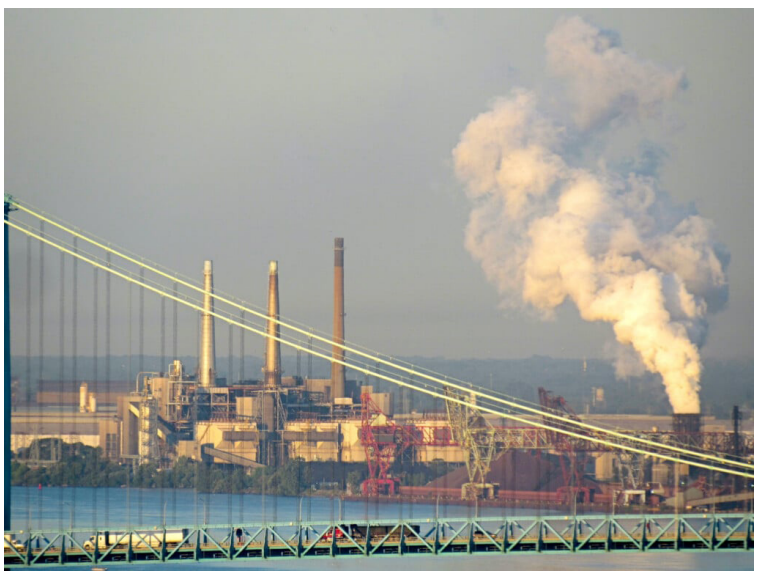
Michigan May Allow New Hazardous Materials on the Ambassador Bridge

Mayor Duggan supports the plan while advocates worry the bridge is unsafe for flammable substances.



Ambassador Bridge. Photo provided by Shutterstock

By Brian Allnutt, Reprinted from Planet Detroit

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan and more than 30 state and local elected officials support a proposal to allow new classes of hazardous materials on the privately owned Ambassador Bridge connecting Detroit with Windsor, Ontario. The officials submitted letters to the Michigan Department of Transportation supporting the move over the last seven months.

The Detroit International Bridge Company argues that allowing class 3 and class 8 hazardous materials will decrease the distance these materials need to travel, reducing the risk of a spill. Following the closure of the Detroit-Windsor Truck Ferry in September, trucks carrying these materials have had to use the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron, roughly 60 miles from Detroit. Products like radioactive materials, flammable gasses, and explosives would continue to be prohibited at the company's request.

Class 3 materials include flammable and combustible liquids such as paint, and Class 8 includes corrosives like lead acid batteries and degreasers.

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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2 Community
Clark Park Presents 12th Annual Winter Carnival and Hockey Classics

3 Community
Funding Available for Michigan AmeriCorps Programs

4 World Cultures Special
Manizales, Colombia

8 Sports
Wolverines National Champions photo highlights

10 Sports
Lions Hosting LA Rams !!!

12 Opinion
"Donald J. Trump orders election day violence; Trump's lawyers flunk on self-proclaimed "total immunity.""

13 Jobs/ Trabajos

Clark Park Presents 12th Annual Winter Carnival and Hockey Classics

Get ready for a day of free family fun at Clark Park on Saturday, Jan. 20 when the Clark Park Coalition hosts its 12th Annual Winter Carnival and outdoor charity classic hockey games.

Everyone is welcome to participate from noon to 4 p.m. for ice skating, a petting zoo, horse-drawn carriage rides through the streets of Southwest Detroit, roasting marshmallows, savoring s'mores, exploring the nature van from Huron Metro Parks, outdoor games, and a very special visit from Detroit fire fighters.

Hockey fans, plan to be there at 6 p.m. when the action moves to the finest outdoor hockey rink in metro Detroit with a women's charity hockey game. A men's charity hockey game follows at 7:30 p.m.

"We expect up to 1,000 people to come out and enjoy the day," said event director and Clark Park business manager Kate Brennan. "This is the 10th year we've included the Winter Classic hockey games with the Carnival," said Brennan. Free Press columnist and former Fox 2 investigative reporter M.L. Elrick and attorney Mike Rataj established the charity hockey games in 2015.

Players raise funds and donate money to participate in the charity hockey games. The Winter Carnival and Charity Hockey Classics are the major fundraisers for Clark Park, which is also supported by Patronicity, which hosts an online fundraiser at www.patronicity.com/ClarkPark2023. "No donation is too big or too small," Brennan said, "And it all helps us provide activities for kids year round."

Winter Carnival sponsors include DTE, East Side Youth Sports Foundation, Detroit Legal Group, Watchmen Ink, Thomas Magee's Sporting House and Whiskey Bar, the Brennan Group, and the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters.

The day's activities and attendance at the hockey games are free of charge. Call 313 841 8534 or visit www.clarkparkdetroit.com for further information.

2023 Clark Park Winter Carnival Photos provided by: David Rodriguez and the Detroit Free Press

Clark Park COALITION DETROIT

FREE!
2024 CLARK PARK WINTER CARNIVAL
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
CARNAVAL DE INVIERNO
SABADO 20 DE ENERO
12 PM – 4 PM
Food • Outdoor Games • Music •
Petting Zoo • Horse-Drawn Carriage •
Marshmallow Roasting • Ice Skating
& Much More!
CLARK PARK
WINTER CARNIVAL HOCKEY CLASSIC
JUEGO DE INVIERNO DE HOCKEY CLASICO
6 PM: Women's Game / Juego de Mujeres
7:30 PM: Men's Game / Juego de Hombres
Clark Park: 1130 Clark Street, Detroit, MI 48209
For more information call (313) 841 8534 or email clarkparkdetroit@gmail.com
Sponsors include: Gordie Howe International Bridge, DTE Energy, Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters, Brennan Group, LLC (Partial Listing)

2024 Community Organization Investment – Applications now open

Applications are now open for the 2024 Community Organization Investment initiative as part of the Gordie Howe International Bridge's Community Benefits Plan.

The Community Organization Investment initiative provides funding of $200,000 (CDN) in Canada and the US to community organizations serving Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit residents.

Eligible organizations can submit funding applications for proposed initiatives ranging from $1,000 to $25,000 (CDN) for events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will benefit the Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit neighborhoods.

Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on January 31, 2024

Applications will undergo a thorough review process and will only be considered for funding if eligibility requirements are met. Learn more and apply now at https://www.gordiehoweinternationalbridge.com/en/community-benefits-section/community-organization-investment

Organizations looking for additional information on the Community Organization Investment process and eligibility requirements are encouraged to visit GordieHoweInterntationalBridge.com

for more information and register to attend upcoming in-person sessions on January 17 or 18, 2024.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION
INVESTMENT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN
GORDIE HOWE
Applications are open for the 2024 Community Organization Investment as part of the Commmunity Benefits Plan to support eligible organizations located in or servicing west Windsor/Sandwich or southwest Detroit/Delray.
Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2024
Apply for up to $25,000 (CDN) at GordieHoweIntenationalBridge.com

Funding Available for Michigan AmeriCorps Programs

Michigan Community Service Commission is pleased to announce the availability of funds to support new and recompeting Michigan's AmeriCorps programs to start in the fall of 2024 for a 12-month program cycle.

AmeriCorps improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to place AmeriCorps members in service solely within Michigan. Selected organizations will receive grants to support AmeriCorps member positions that engage members in service to meet critical needs in Michigan.

The following non-federal entities are eligible to apply:

- Nonprofit organizations
- Schools
- Institutions of higher education
- Local governments

The deadline for an intent to apply is Jan. 31.

Read more about AmeriCorps funding on the Michigan Community Service Commission website at https://www.michigan.gov/leo/boards-comms-councils/mcsc

The Comerica Hatch Detroit Contest Returns

Applications are now open for the 2024 Comerica Hatch Detroit Contest by TechTown! This retail competition gives savvy entrepreneurs the chance to turn their brick-and-mortar dreams into reality.

One lucky entrepreneur will win $100,000 and a package of in-kind services to open up their first physical storefront in Detroit, Hamtramck or Highland Park. This contest promotes small business economic development and will take place over the next four months. This year's winner will be crowned in the spring.

Applications are due Friday, Feb. 16! Have questions? Bring them to a hybrid information session on January 18 from 6-7:30pm, in-person at TechTown or Zoom. This information session will allow you to learn more about the contest, the application and selection process, and the contest timeline. Please note that this is not a one-on-one coaching session and we will not be able to answer questions specifically about your business.

Find the application and more details about the Comerica Hatch Detroit Contest at www.hatchdetroit.com.

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

Special World's Cultures
Manizales, Colombia

Manizales, Caldas, Colombia

Manizales, known as The City of Open Doors, is located in the department of Caldas and is the world capital of coffee. Founded in 1849, at the time it was part of the region of Antioquia, however, in 1905 when Antioquia was divided, it became part of the department of Caldas. It is part of the Andean region, recognized for its colonial architecture. In this city is the Gold Museum with exceptional pieces of goldsmithing.

Being Manizales the capital of coffee, it is common for anywhere to offer a "Tintico", as they call the coffee, or they may offer a "Manizaleño" which is a coffee with rum, anise and oak, or anise (brandy), oak (rum) and honey (aguapanela/ piloncillo honey or panela honey).

The coffee fruit is red and grows close to the bush, with thick, large, plump, pointed leaves and a bright, dark green. To extract the coffee, the picking is carried out, the fruits are put into some barrels to ferment, then they are taken out and dried in the sun, then pulped, left to dry in sieves in the sun and then roasted, and then ground and bring to the table.

A visit to Manizales in Colombia, despite not being as popular a destination as Cali, Medellín and Bogotá, is, without a doubt, a must-see for coffee lovers.

For 67 years, the Manizales Fair has been held from the first to the second week of January each year. The first time it was carried out was in 1955 during the month of January because it was the driest month of the year. At the fair the selection of the queen for the International Coffee Reign takes place, since Manizales is the international capital of coffee.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL

Recipe Of The Colombian Tongue In Salsa Criolla

Ingredients

1 beef tongue, 3 to 4 pounds
4 whole long onions or chives
Salt and pepper to taste

2 tablespoons of oil
1 large white onion, sliced
3 cups diced tomatoes
4 long onions, chopped or green chives
6 cloves of garlic, minced
1 tablespoon ground cumin
½ cup meat broth
Salt and pepper to taste

2 ripe plantain

2 cups washed long grain white rice
3 and ½ cups of water
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon oil

Instructions

To cook the tongue: Rinse the tongue well with water and place in a large pot. Add the water, the scallion, salt and pepper.

Cover the pot and bring to a boil. Simmer, partially covered, until tongue is tender, 2 ½ to 3 hours.

Transfer the tongue to a cutting board and, when cool enough to handle, peel the skin and trim any fat or gristle. Set aside.

For the rice: In a medium pot, place the rice and add the water, oil and salt. Bring to a boil for about 30 seconds, reduce heat to low and cook for about 15 to 20 minutes or until the water is absorbed and the rice is tender. Remove from heat and let sit for 5 minutes before serving.

For the Salsa Criolla: Heat the oil in a large saucepan. Add the onion, tomatoes, garlic, long onions or green scallions, and ground cumin and cook over low heat for 10 minutes, stirring until softened.

Reduce heat to low, add salt and cook for 10 more minutes, stirring occasionally until sauce has thickened. Check and adjust seasoning.

Cut the tongue into slices and add it to the sauce with the meat broth and continue cooking for about 10 more minutes.

For the plantain: cut it lengthwise, put it in a pan to fry and brown, once it is well cooked, remove.

To serve: place the slices of tongue on the plate, accompany with white rice and plantain.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO
Manizales, Colombia

Receta colombiana
Lengua de res en salsa criolla

Ingredientes

1 lengua de res de 3 a 4 libras
4 cebollas largas enteras o cebollines
Sal y pimienta al gusto

2 cucharadas de aceite
1 cebolla blanca grande en rodajas
3 tazas de tomates cortados en cubitos
4 cebollas largas picadas o cebollín verde
6 dientes de ajo picados
1 cucharada de comino molido
½ taza de caldo de carne
Sal y pimienta al gusto

2 plátanos maduros o plátano macho maduro

2 tazas de arroz blanco de grano largo lavado
3 y ½ tazas de agua
1 cucharadita de sal
1 cucharada de aceite

Preparación

Para cocinar la lengua: Enjuague la lengua bien con agua y colocar en una olla grande. Añadir el agua, la cebolla larga, sal y pimienta.

Tape la olla y llevar a hervir. Cocine a fuego lento, parcialmente cubierto, hasta que la lengua es tierna, 2 ½ a 3 horas.

Transferir la lengua a una tabla de cortar y, cuando se haya enfriado lo suficiente como para manejar, pelar la piel y recortar cualquier grasa o cartílago. Dejar de lado.

Para el arroz: En una olla mediana, colocar el arroz y añadir el agua, el aceite y la sal. Llevar a hervir durante unos 30 segundos, reduzca el fuego a bajo y cocine por unos 15 a 20 minutos o hasta que el agua se absorba y el arroz esté tierno. Retirar del fuego y dejar reposar durante 5 minutos antes de servir.

Hacer la salsa criolla: Calentar el aceite en una cacerola grande. Añadir la cebolla, los tomates, el ajo, las cebollas largas o cebollín verde, el comino molido y cocer a fuego lento durante 10 minutos, revolviendo hasta que se ablanden.

Reduce el fuego a bajo, agregue la sal y cocinar por 10 minutos más, revolviendo ocasionalmente hasta que la salsa haya espesado. Compruebe y ajuste la sazón.

Corte la lengua en rebanadas y agregarla a la salsa con el caldo de carne y continuar la cocción durante unos 10 minutos más.

Para el plátano: cortarlo a lo largo, ponerlo en un sartén a freír y dorar, ya que esté bien cocido, retirar.

Para el servir: poner en el plato las rebanadas de lengua, acompañar con arroz blanco y el plátano maduro.

Manizales, Caldas, Colombia

Manizales, conocida como La ciudad de las puertas abiertas, se ubica en el departamento de Caldas es la capital mundial del café. Fundada en 1849, en su momento fue parte de la región de Antioquia, sin embargo, en 1905 cuando Antioquia quedó dividida, pasó a formar parte del departamento de Caldas. Es parte de la región Andina, reconocida por su arquitectura colonial. En esta ciudad se encuentra el Museo del Oro con piezas de orfebrería excepcionales.

Siendo Manizales la capital del café, es común que en cualquier lugar ofrezcan un "Tintico", como le llaman al café, o puede ser que ofrezcan un "Manizaleño" que es un café con ron, anís y roble, o bien, anís (aguardiente), roble (ron) y miel (aguapanela/miel de piloncillo o miel de panela).

La fruta del café es roja y crece pegada al arbusto, de hojas gruesas y grandes regordetas con punta y un verde oscuro y vivo. Para la extracción del café, se lleva a cabo la pizca, se meten las frutas a unas barricas a fermentar, luego se sacan y secan al sol, para después despulpar, dejar secar en unos cernidores al sol y luego tostar, para luego moler y llevar a la mesa.

La visita a Manizales en Colombia a pesar de no ser un destino tan popular como es Cali, Medellín y Bogotá, es, sin duda, un imperdible para los amantes del café.

Desde hace 67 años, se lleva a cabo la Feria de Manizales de la primera a la segunda semana de enero cada año. La primera vez que se realizó fue en 1955 durante el mes de enero por ser el mes más seco del año. En la feria se lleva a cabo la selección de la reina para el Reinado Internacional del café, pues Manizales es la capital internacional del café.

Sigue cada semana en **EL CENTRAL** nuestro
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Michigan May Allow New Hazardous Materials on the Ambassador Bridge

Con't from pg. 1

However, some lawmakers and community advocates opposing the move say that the 93-year-old bridge lacks the safety infrastructure of newer bridges, posing a risk to the densely populated neighborhoods on both the U.S. and Canadian sides. The Gordie Howe Bridge, around two miles from the Ambassador Bridge, will allow for the safe movement of these materials when it opens in 2025.

Sam Butler, president of the Hubbard Richard Neighborhood Association, expressed concern that the aging bridge and customs plaza may be unprepared to handle these materials.

"We just don't think it is a very good idea to transport more hazardous materials, including flammable liquids and corrosive materials, 20 feet from occupied homes," Butler told Planet Detroit.

Duggan spokesperson John Roach told Planet Detroit that allowing trucks to use the Ambassador Bridge significantly reduces the number of miles of transportation of hazardous materials on roads in the city.

Steve Tobocman, a former Democratic Floor Leader in the Michigan House who represented Southwest Detroit, said an accident could have dire consequences.

"Should an accident happen on the bridge, there's not the emergency response ability to limit the damage in the way it would be…on a normal interstate or surface street," he said. An estimated quarter of all trade between the U.S. and Canada uses the bridge, according to Statistics Canada.

Among the 30 elected officials who wrote to the Michigan Department of Transportation in support of the move were Detroit City Councilmember Mary Waters, state representatives Tyrone Carter (D-Detroit), Helena Scott (D-Detroit), Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit), Nate Shannon (D-Sterling Heights), Joseph Aragona (R-Clinton Township), Jaime Greene (R-Richmond), and Wayne County Sheriff Raphael Washington.

Although eleven residents submitted letters in favor of the proposal in December, more than 400 signed a petition opposing it in 2020. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer used a line-item veto to defeat that provision.

An aging bridge and busy neighborhoods

State Senators Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) and Erika Geiss (D-Taylor) said in a letter to MDOT that hazardous materials pose a special danger in a neighborhood with significant pollution where the bridge company will be expanding its toll plaza.

"Three schools and two public parks lie within the vicinity of the Bridge and Plaza, and the bridge opening lies in a densely populated neighborhood, where 40 percent of the residents are children," they wrote. "Risking the safety of the seniors, families and children in these places in an environmental justice community would be negligent."

A November report released by MDOT said the increase in risk from lifting the Class 3 and Class 8 restrictions was small but that "the difference is not significant enough to make a compelling case for or against any changes."

The study also identified potential problems with fighting fires on the bridge, including a fire suppression system running parallel to the roadway that could be damaged by a vehicle crash. The report noted that fires involving class 3 substances like gasoline would likely require aqueous foam from local fire stations to be put out and that congestion could delay fire response.

A letter to MDOT from GLELC and signed by U.S. Rep Rashida Tlaib (D-Dearborn), Rep. Debbie Stabenow (D-Ann Arbor), Chang, State Sen. Darrin Camilleri (D-Trenton) and Detroit City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero, said that the bridge company itself had made the case for the inadequacy of the current bridge.

While pursuing a permit to build a second span in 2009, owners told the U.S. Coast Guard that it was an "aging bridge" that was "near the end of its life span." The company singled out issues like 11-foot-wide rather than standard 12-foot lanes and minimal safety shoulders that added to backups and congestion.

The GLELC letter also cited safety issues related to private ownership and the bridge company's use of private engineering firms rather than government inspectors.

It's previously been reported that Ambassador Bridge owners have not allowed government inspectors on the bridge and failed to show U.S. regulators the results of third-party inspections.

Other problems that have popped up over the years have included uninspected trucks parking underneath the bridge, which some labeled a security concern because of the possibility of an explosion. And in 2015, large chunks of concrete fell off the bridge in Windsor, forcing city officials to close several streets.

City officials say it's safe

While Windsor officials have opposed allowing more hazardous materials on the bridge, Detroit officials have given the all-clear. A 2021 memorandum from Raymond Scott, deputy director of the city of Detroit's Buildings, Safety Engineering and Environmental Department, expressed support for the plan, with neither the Detroit Police Department nor the Detroit Fire Department Fire Marshal Division seeing any significant issue.

A press release from the bridge company says allowing Class 3 substances like gasoline and diesel fuel to cross the bridge will, on its own, allow 4,200 hundred trucks to avoid the trip to Port Huron, eliminating 250,000 miles of travel and "providing a substantial net safety benefit to the State of Michigan."

Randy Spader, vice president of operations for the Ambassador Bridge, told Planet Detroit that the bridge company will escort vehicles carrying Class 3 and Class 8 materials and that these vehicles "will be fully equipped with appropriate safety equipment including spill mitigation, fire response, and communication devices."

Spader also pointed out upgrades the company has made over the last 15 years, which include replacement of the bridge deck and repairs to the concrete substructure.

MDOT spokesperson Jeff Cranson said that if the new classes of material are allowed, the decision could be open to review in the future.

"MDOT could likely request a change if new risks were identified by law enforcement agencies or others," he said.

Yet, safety assurances from the city or bridge company are unlikely to allay Butler's concerns.

"It would be very difficult for someone to convince me that more hazardous materials adjacent to a thriving residential community is a good idea," he said.

Monica Monsma, public involvement specialist for MDOT, said the agency tentatively plans to hold a public hearing on the proposal in March. Residents can sign up for email updates from MDOT at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/new.

The agency will also post information about a potential hearing 30 days in advance on MDOT's hazardous materials routing webpage.

El Estado de Michigan podría permitir el paso de sustancias peligrosas en el puente Ambassador

Con't de pg. 1

Sam Butler, presidente de la Asociación de Vecinos de Hubbard Richard, expresó su preocupación de que el viejo puente y la plaza de aduanas no estén preparados para manejar estos materiales.

"Simplemente no creemos que sea buena idea transportar más materiales peligrosos, incluidos líquidos inflamables y materiales corrosivos, a 20 pies de casas habitadas", le comentó Butler a Planet Detroit.

El portavoz de Duggan, John Roach, expresó a Planet Detroit que permitir el uso del Puente Ambassador reduce significativamente la cantidad de millas de transporte de materiales peligrosos en las carreteras de la ciudad.

Steve Tobocman, exlíder demócrata de la Cámara de Representantes de Michigan que representó al suroeste de Detroit, expuso que un accidente podría tener consecuencias nefastas.

"Si ocurriera un accidente en el puente, no existe la capacidad de respuesta de emergencia para limitar el daño, como sucedería en una calle interestatal o de superficie normal", dijo. Se estima que una cuarta parte de todo el comercio entre Estados Unidos y Canadá utiliza el puente, de acuerdo a Statistics Canada.

Entre los 30 funcionarios electos que escribieron al Departamento de Transporte como apoyo a la medida, se encontraban la concejal de la ciudad de Detroit, Mary Waters, los representantes estatales demócratas Tyrone Carter (Detroit), Helena Scott (Detroit), Karen Whitsett (Detroit), Nate Shannon (Sterling Heights), los republicanos Joseph Aragona (Clinton Township), Jaime Greene (Richmond) y el sheriff del condado de Wayne, Raphael Washington.

Aunque once residentes presentaron cartas a favor de la propuesta en diciembre, más de 400 firmaron una petición oponiéndose a ella en 2020. La gobernadora Gretchen Whitmer utilizó un veto de partidas individuales para derrotar esa disposición.

Un puente envejecido y barrios concurridos

Las senadoras estatales demócratas Stephanie Chang (Detroit) y Erika Geiss (Taylor) comunicaron en una carta al MDOT que las sustancias peligrosas representan una amenaza especial en un vecindario con una contaminación significativa donde la compañía del puente ampliará su plaza de peaje.

"Tres escuelas y dos parques públicos se encuentran en las cercanías del Puente y la Plaza, y la apertura del puente se encuentra en un vecindario densamente poblado, donde el 40 por ciento de los residentes son niños", escribieron. "Arriesgar la seguridad de las personas mayores, las familias y los niños en estos lugares en una comunidad de justicia ambiental sería negligente".

Un informe de noviembre publicado por el MDOT dijo que el aumento en el riesgo era pequeño, al levantar las restricciones de Clase 3 y Clase 8, pero que "la diferencia no es lo suficientemente significativa como para presentar un caso convincente a favor o en contra de cualquier cambio".

El estudio también identificó problemas potenciales en la lucha contra incendios en el puente, incluido un sistema de extinción de incendios que corre paralelo a la carretera y que podría resultar dañado en un accidente automovilístico. El informe señaló que los incendios que involucran sustancias de clase 3, como la gasolina, probablemente requerirían espuma acuosa de las estaciones de bomberos locales para ser apagados y que la congestión podría retrasar la respuesta al incendio.

Una carta al MDOT de GLELC y firmada por las representantes estadounidenses demócratas Rashida Tlaib (Dearborn), Debbie Stabenow (Ann Arbor), la Senadora estatal Chang, Darrin Camilleri (Trenton) y la concejal de la ciudad de Detroit Gabriela Santiago-Romero afirmaron que la propia empresa del puente había defendido las carencias del puente actual.

Mientras solicitaban un permiso para construir un segundo tramo en 2009, los propietarios dijeron a la Guardia Costera de los EE. UU. que se trataba de un "puente viejo" que estaba "cerca del final de su vida útil". La compañía destacó temas como la medida de 11 pies de ancho en lugar del estándar de 12 pies en los carriles y márgenes de seguridad mínimos que aumentan los atascos y la congestión.

La carta de GLELC también citó cuestiones de seguridad relacionadas con la propiedad privada y el uso por parte de la compañía del puente de empresas de ingeniería privadas en lugar de inspectores gubernamentales.

Anteriormente se informó que los propietarios del Puente Ambassador no permitieron que inspectores gubernamentales ingresaran al puente y no mostraron a los reguladores estadounidenses los resultados de las inspecciones de terceros.

Otros problemas que han surgido a lo largo de los años incluyen el estacionamiento de camiones no inspeccionados debajo del puente, lo que algunos calificaron como un problema de seguridad debido a la posibilidad de una explosión. Y en 2015, grandes trozos de hormigón se cayeron del puente en Windsor, lo que obligó a las autoridades de la ciudad a cerrar varias calles.

Los funcionarios de la ciudad dicen que es seguro

Si bien los funcionarios de Windsor se han opuesto a permitir más materiales peligrosos en el puente, los funcionarios de Detroit han dado el visto bueno. Un memorando de 2021 de Raymond Scott, subdirector del Departamento de Edificios, Ingeniería de Seguridad y Medio Ambiente de la ciudad de Detroit, expresó su apoyo al plan, y ni el Departamento de Policía de Detroit ni la División del Jefe de Bomberos del Departamento de Bomberos de Detroit vieron ningún problema significativo.

Un comunicado de prensa de la compañía del puente dice que permitir que sustancias Clase 3 como gasolina y diesel crucen el puente permitirá, por sí solo, que 4.200 camiones eviten el viaje a Port Huron, eliminando 250.000 millas de viaje y "proporcionando una red sustancial beneficio de seguridad para el estado de Michigan".

Randy Spader, vicepresidente de operaciones del Puente Ambassador, dijo a Planet Detroit que la compañía del puente escoltará a los vehículos que transporten materiales Clase 3 y Clase 8 y que estos vehículos "estarán completamente equipados con el equipo de seguridad apropiado que incluye mitigación de derrames, respuesta a incendios y dispositivos de comunicación."

Spader también destacó las mejoras que la compañía ha realizado en los últimos 15 años, que incluyen el reemplazo de la plataforma del puente y reparaciones a la subestructura de concreto.

El portavoz del MDOT, Jeff Cranson, expresó que, si se permiten esos materiales, la decisión podría estar abierta a revisión en el futuro.

"El MDOT probablemente podría solicitar un cambio si las agencias de seguridad o similares identificaran nuevos riesgos", dijo.

Sin embargo, es poco probable que las garantías de seguridad de la ciudad o de la compañía del puente disipen las preocupaciones del presidente de la asociación vecinal.

"Sería muy difícil para alguien convencerme de que es una buena idea tener más materiales peligrosos junto a una próspera comunidad residencial", afirmó.

Mónica Monsma, especialista en participación pública del MDOT, dijo que la agencia planea tentativamente celebrar una audiencia pública sobre la propuesta en marzo. Los residentes pueden registrarse para recibir actualizaciones por correo electrónico del MDOT desde este sitio https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/new.

La agencia también publicará información sobre una posible audiencia con 30 días de anticipación en la página web de enrutamiento de materiales peligrosos del MDOT.

Traducción por Carmen Elena Luna

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HISPANIC NEWS

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Visit the Detroit Taxpayer Service Center in Suite #130. Monday–Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Friday by phone at (313) 224-3560, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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City of Detroit,
Property Tax Department,
P.O. Box 33193
Detroit, MI 48232-3193

Payment with the enclosed coupon must be received by the due date to be considered timely.

To ensure your payment is most accurately and efficiently processed, the preferred payment method is online, mobile app, phone, or kiosk. Mail payments should only be used as a last resort.

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Property owners have convenient options to access their tax bill(s):
- **Online:** Visit **detroitmi.gov/payproptax**.
- **DivDat Kiosk:** Visit any DivDat kiosk to access your tax bill.
- **Phone:** Call (313) 224-3560.
- **Email:** Send an email to **DTSC@detroitmi.gov**.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

Funded by the Neighborhood Improvement Fund

WHAT IS THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM?

The Neighborhood Beautification Program (NBP) provides funding to Detroit-based block clubs, neighborhood associations, nonprofits and faith-based organizations to conduct projects on vacant lots in their community. **Nonprofit and faith-based organizations must partner with a City-registered block club.**

Applicants must currently own the lots or purchase them from the Detroit Land Bank Authority. Awards range from $500 to $15,000.

STEP 1 APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Must be registered with the Department of Neighborhoods or partnered with a City-registered block club (see Partnership Letter).
- Must be designated as a 501(c)(3) or LLC, or have a 501(c)(3) fiduciary.
- To register with the Department of Neighborhoods, visit here.

STEP 2 SELECT YOUR SITE

- If you already own the lot(s), move to Step 3 to design your project.
- If you wish to purchase lots, identify property in your neighborhood here.
- DLBA-owned Neighborhood Lots can also be licensed for clean-up activities.

STEP 3 DESIGN YOUR PROJECT

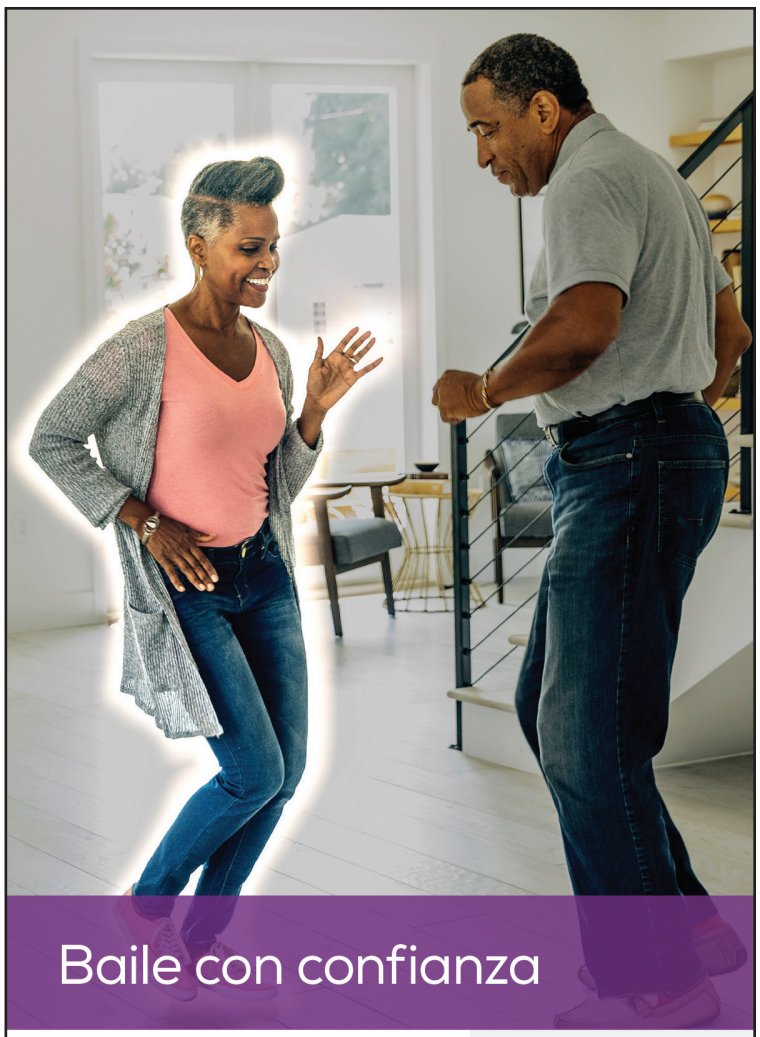
- Community gardens:
  - Raised beds for flowers or crops
  - Fruit and shade trees
  - Ornamental gardens
- Public space improvements:
  - Landscaping
  - Benches and tables
  - Art installations
  - Fencing or boulders
- Clean-up activities:
  - Brush clearing
  - Grading and seeding
  - Street/alley clean-ups

QUESTIONS?

For more information, contact Samuel Coons at Samuel.Coons@detroitmi.gov.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE OPEN 1/15 - 2/23 ON THE WAYNE METRO WEBSITE

Register now for an info sessions:
- INFORMATION SESSION – 1/10 at 5pm
- PLOT PLAN + PERMITTING SESSION – 1/24 at 9am
- QUESTION + ANSWER SESSION – 1/31 at 12pm



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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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Wolverines National Champions

Con't from pg. 1

Dan Graschuck - sports editor/ EL CENTRAL

All University of Michigan Wolverines photos by Suzie C. Baker, unless otherwise noted

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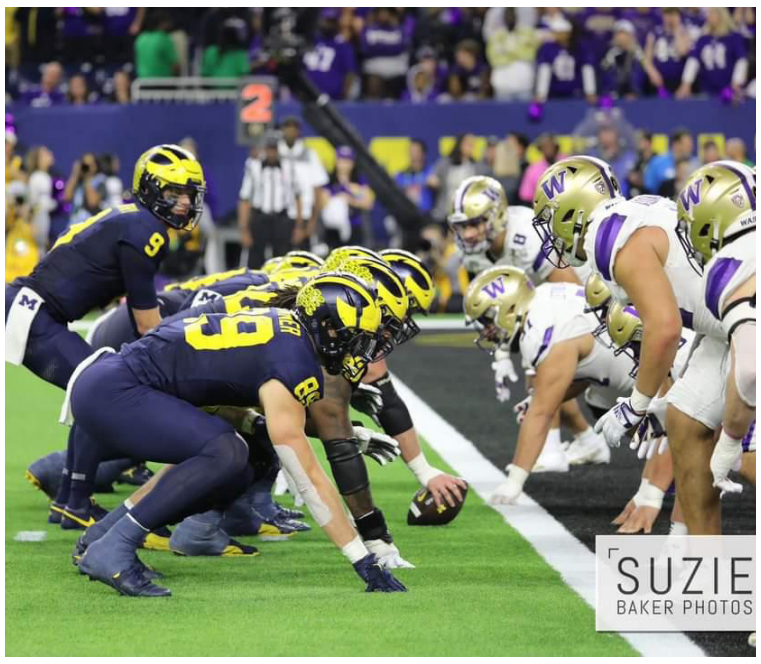
ARE NATIONAL CHAMPS!

Photo provided by University of Michigan Athletics Department

Wolverine players passing the trophy to each other



Wolverines lined up and getting ready to snap the ball from the Huskies 1 yard line, late in the 4th quarter

Wolverines RB #2 Blake Corum getting ready to run against the Huskies. Corum had 21 carries for 134 yards with 2 TDs. Corum broke Anthony Thomas's previously held record (55 rushing touchdowns) to become the all-time career rushing touchdown leader at Michigan during the Rose Bowl on January 1st, with 56 rushing touchdowns. Corum also scored 2 rushing touchdowns and was named offensive MVP at the National Championship game

The University of Michigan Wolverines standing with the CFP Football National Championship trophy after beating the Huskies. DB #0 Mike Sainristil (in center holding H-TOWN sign) got a key interception in the 4th quarter to help the Wolverines defeat the Huskies.

Dan Graschuck - sports editor/ EL CENTRAL

All University of Michigan Wolverines photos by Suzie C. Baker, unless otherwise noted

Wolverines defense swarm and sack Huskies QB #7 Michael Penix Jr.

CFP president Bill Hancock, gets ready to present the CFP National Football trophy to the Wolverines after defeating the Huskies

Shown in photo Jim Harbaugh (University of Michigan Wolverines head coach) and Jim Harbuagh's father Jack Harbaugh (in center between #78 and #94), celebrating the Wolverines victory after the game

Wolverines RB #7 Donovan Edwards scoring one of his two TDs. Edwards scored on his first two possessions in the game. Edwards had 6 carries for 104 yards with 2 TDs

After the game press conference, (L-R) Wolverines head coach Jim Harbaugh, RB #2 Blake Corum, DB #2 Will Johnson, and QB #9 J.J. McCarthy

Baltimore Ravens head coach John Harbaugh showed up to the CFP National Championship game to support his brother, Wolverines head coach, Jim Harbaugh

Lions Hosting LA Rams !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

The Detroit Lions (12-5) hosted the Minnesota Vikings, this past Sunday, adn defeated the Vikings 30-20.

The Detroit Lions will be hosting, former Detroit Lions QB Matthew Stafford and the LA Rams, this Sunday, January 14th at 8:00 pm (NBC and Peacock).

The NFL Playoffs being on Saturday, January 13th, if the Lions beat the Rams, then they will play on either Saturday, January 20th, or Sunday January 21st.

The Conference Championship games will take place on Sunday January 28th, and the Super Bowl will take place, on Sunday February 11th.

Photos below are highlights from the Detroit Lions vs. Minnesota Vikings.

Photo provided by Adam J. Dewey

Lions DL #97 Aidan Hutchinson taking the field before the game

Lions LB #46 Jack Campbell hits Vikings TE #84 Josh Oliver to save a TD, after Oliver jumps over another Lions defender

Lions TE #87 Sam LaPorta gets carted off the field after he suffers an injury and would not return to the game. LaPorta had 5 receptions for 29 yards with 1 TD

Lions #26 Jahmyr Gibbs scores a TD against the Vikings. Gibbs had 13 carries for 30 yards with 1 TD

Lions WR #8 Josh Reynolds making a play against the Vikings. Reynolds had 5 receptions for 44 yards

Lions T #70 Dan Skipper makes a play against the Vikings S #44 Josh Metellus.

ALL MLS SELECTION FOR JANUARY CAMP

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS SPORTS

Pateando la No. 5

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

The US men's national team January camp occasionally has players based abroad, but not this year. Head coach Gregg Berhalter and Olympic coach Marko Mitrovic have divided the roster between Olympic age-eligible players and potential over-age candidates from the fringes, in some cases distant fringes, of the national team pool.

The thirteen players who qualify for the Paris Olympics based on age include four members of the USA's U-20 team that advanced to the quarterfinals last year: Cade Cowell, Jack McGlynn, Diego Luna, and Caleb Wiley. Cowell is currently a transfer target for Chivas. The others have established themselves as regular players in the league, with Wiley being especially coveted as a left back. Depending on what overseas based players are released, they could play a key role in the USA's first Olympic appearance since 2008.

Given the struggles of Matt Turner at Nottingham Forest and the absence of any other American from a starting role at a major club in Europe, the three goalkeepers in this camp will have a chance to make a serious impression on the coaching team. Patrick Schulte of the Columbus Crew is coming off a MLS Cup winning season and is age-eligible for the Olympics. Drake Callender and Roman Celentano of Inter Miami and FC Cincinnati have emerged as solid starters in MLS, but have not yet taken the next step to pressure Turner or his current backups.

Missing from the camp is new Colorado Rapids number one Zach Steffen. He was cut from the national team prior to the World Cup and finished the 2022-2023 season on loan with Middlesbrough in the English Championship. Then, he had knee surgery and hasn't played since, while rehabbing at Manchester City. With no future at City, he signed for Colorado last week and will have a whole preseason with his new club.

Berhalter has included defender Miles Robinson, who also missed the World Cup. He recovered from his Achilles injury and played all of 2023 with Atlanta United. His contract with Atlanta ended in December, but instead of moving abroad to a higher level of play, he joined the Supporters Shield winners, FC Cincinnati. Of note, he did not have the same dominant performances in 2023 that he had in previous seasons. Perhaps his pairing with Matt Miazga in Cincinnati will help raise his game back to the levels he reached in 2021.

The forward group is largely untested at the international level. Orlando striker Duncan McGuire came out of the MLS Super Draft of college players and scored 13 goals. That makes him the top candidate to start in France. FC Dallas forward Bernard Kamungo began life in a refugee camp before moving to Texas. He lit up MLS NEXT Pro and earned a promotion to the first team where he scored 6 times, attracting US Soccer's attention.

The rest of the roster would require some serious digging into MLS. The likes of Jordan Morris, Walker Zimmerman, Kellyn Acosta, Jesus Ferreira, and Paul Arriola weren't invited. Striker Brandon Vazquez dropped off the roster after going to Mexico to work on a transfer to Monterrey. Based on the roster selected for the CONCACAF Nations League quarterfinal in November, it would appear that very few MLS players are going to be a part of the team when the Nations League finals come up in March or when the Copa America happens in June.

Berhalter and the team began a nine-day training camp in Orlando on Monday and will then move to San Antonio. They will meet Slovenia in a friendly on January 20 to conclude the camp in the home stadium of San Antonio FC of the USL Championship. It's an 8,000 capacity ground, the perfect size for a January camp friendly. While the senior national team plays the Nations League games in March, Mitrovic will have a U23 camp that could include players based abroad. That camp will give a much better indication of what the Olympic team will look like.

DETAILED ROSTER BY POSITION (CLUB; CAPS/GOALS)

GOALKEEPERS (3): Drake Callender (Inter Miami; 0/0), Roman Celentano (FC Cincinnati; 0/0), Patrick Schulte (Columbus Crew; 0/0)

DEFENDERS (10): Nathan Harriel (Philadelphia Union; 0/0), DeJuan Jones (New England Revolution; 7/0), Shaq Moore (Nashville SC; 17/1), Ian Murphy (FC Cincinnati; 0/0), Jackson Ragen (Seattle Sounders; 0/0), Miles Robinson (FC Cincinnati; 27/3), James Sands (New York City FC; 13/0), Nkosi Tafari (FC Dallas; 0/0), John Tolkin (New York Red Bulls; 3/0), Caleb Wiley (Atlanta United; 1/0)

MIDFIELDERS (6): Joshua Atencio (Seattle Sounders; 0/0), Aziel Jackson (St. Louis City; 0/0), Jack McGlynn (Philadelphia Union; 0/0), Aidan Morris (Columbus Crew; 4/0), Timmy Tillman (LAFC; 0/0), Sean Zawadzki (Columbus Crew; 0/0)

FORWARDS (6): Esmir Bajraktarevic (New England Revolution; 0/0), Cade Cowell (San Jose Earthquakes; 8/1), Bernard Kamungo (FC Dallas; 0/0), Diego Luna (Real Salt Lake; 0/0), Duncan McGuire (Orlando City; 0/0), Brian White (Vancouver Whitecaps/CAN; 0/0)

Lions Hosting LA Rams !!!

Lions head coach Dan Campbell and Vikings head coach Kevin O'Connell, shaking hands at the end of the game

Lions DL #95 Romeo Okwara and DL #91 Levi Onwuzurike celebrating sacking Vikings QB #12 Nick Mullens. Mullens was 30 for 44 for 396 yards with 2 TDs and 2 INTs

Lions QB #16 Jared Goff sets the play against the Vikings. Goff was 23 for 32 for 320 yards with 2 TDs

EDITORIAL OPINION

"Donald J. Trump orders election day violence; Trump's lawyers flunk on self-proclaimed "total immunity.""

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

Donald J. Trump at Mason, Iowa, directed his most passionate followers to forget about law and the Constitution -- attack, attack "bags of crap" --

"You should all stay in those voting booths— you should stay there and watch and if you see bags of crap coming into the voting areas, you gotta stop it."

Stop it with violence as pioneered by the Trump cult on January 6, 2021, I presume.

If that isn't a call for individual violence come election day, I don't know what is.

Trump is being so obvious it must cause his staff's hearts to pause every few minutes. Apparently, if his handlers aren't around to muzzle him, Trump simply runs off the "reservation" and says and writes the stupidest things he can whip up. Does it in all-cap midnight diatribes on his social media.

For example, he relabels imprisoned convicted felons, his fellow January 6 insurrectionists, "hostages" and promises to "pardon" most of them if he wins the election. He calls a criminal woman -- Ashli Babbitt from San Diego, who was a screaming criminal attempting to break into the capitol building on January 6 -- "an innocent, wonderful, incredible woman, a military woman" whose shooting was a "terrible thing' and that "THERE WAS NO REASON FOR IT."

Mr. One-term Former President, there were plenty of reasons for the shooting.

For your information (1) she was leading a screaming pack of criminals in attacking the capitol building violating a gaggle of federal laws - felonies - in actually invading the U.S. Capitol; (2) she was disobeying lawful orders by a capitol police officer; (3) she was trespassing on federal property; (4) she was"lusting for blood; - in other words she was violent and calling for violence against police officers doing their duty of protecting the capital and its congress people (this isn't a real violation, but it might be).

Joining Mr. One-term Former President is a surprising newcomer to the cult of stupidity Trump leads -- the January 6 political cabal -- she is Congresswoman Elise Stefanik (R-New York) a living example of how Harvard is misrepresented as a quality, if not the highest quality higher education institution in the U.S. If she is the best of the best, we should value Harvard less.

In her slavish alliance with Trump and his cult she is now referring to unanimously found guilty -- by federal juries -- January 6 felons serving prison time as long as 20-25 year prison terms -- she's calling them "hostages" just like her master, Master Trump does. Why?

Is she running for the vice-presidential nomination by Trump if he is renominated? Appears so. She entered Congress as a "moderate" and has crashed her way into the MAGA cult using her defensive end-like-body and big mouth to roll a clear path into Trump's favor and vice-presidency.

The absolute proof of her sellout will be when she, too, espouses violence against voters not waving MAGA flags when they enter voting booths on November 10, 2024 -- just like Trump did in Mason, Iowa.

She can support her master all she wants; however, in her way now is a three judge panel on the Court of appeals.

The nation listened to Trump's lawyers claim "total immunity" from prosecution. One of the three judges suggested that Trump, while President, could order his opponent murdered with an order to Seal Team Six to kill the opponent and that, that would be an "official act." As such Trump would be immune from prosecution.

Stupid reasoning. So stupid, it was clear to everyone in the country that Trump is toast. Not one of the three judges disagrees; Trump will ask for the entire circuit of judges to hear his appeal; they will and they will trash his claim to immunity. Ditto the U.S. Supreme Court.

Trump is toast and it "ain't" Avocado Toast.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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When should I expect my property tax bill?
Winter Property taxes were mailed December 1, 2023.

What should I do if I don't get my property tax bill?
If you haven't received your property tax bill yet, you can check with the Office of the Assessor at Suite 130 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. Staff can help you confirm or update your mailing address. Contact the Assessor's office by email at assessors@detroitmi.gov or by phone at (313) 224-3560. **Select prompt #2 twice to speak with a representative.**

If you need a copy of your current tax bill, contact the Detroit Taxpayer Service Center (DTSC) at (313) 224-3560. **Select prompt #2 then Prompt #1** or email DTSC@detroitmi.gov. Property owners can always view their property tax bill anytime online at **www.detroitmi.gov/payproptax.**

If you need to update the taxpayer of record, you must file a property transfer affidavit with the Assessor. To update the mailing address on file, you need to complete a taxpayer mailing address change form. Both forms can be found at **detroitmi.gov/assessor.**

Remember, you can always view your property tax bill online anytime at **www.detroitmi.gov/payproptax.**

I want to make early payments toward my future property tax bills, how can I do that?
You can pay property taxes through the Plan Ahead program. For more information on Plan Ahead, contact the Detroit Taxpayer Service Center at **(313) 224-3560** or by email **DTSC@detroitmi.gov.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, January 15, 2024
Full Winter and Summer Second Installment Property taxes due

Tuesday, January 16, 2024
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Friday, March 1, 2024
Delinquent Real Property taxes are transferred to the Wayne County Treasurer for collection

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HISPANIC NEWS

Salud/*Health*

Protecting Americans' Access to High-Quality Health Care

(StatePoint) Accepting Medicare is becoming increasingly unsustainable for physicians, which has resulted in many practices refusing to take new Medicare patients, or even to shutter their doors. At the same time, millions of additional Americans are projected to rely on Medicare in the coming years. With a 3.37% reduction to Medicare imposed at the start of this year, the American Medical Association (AMA) says that reforms are needed to protect millions of Americans' access to their physicians.

"After three consecutive years of Medicare cuts, physicians and patients are at a crossroads. Physicians have faced reductions in Medicare payments each of the past four years on top of steeply rising practice costs and the burdens of nearly four years of COVID-19. Continuing down this road is unsustainable for many physicians, particularly those in smaller private practices," says Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH, president of the AMA.

An AMA analysis of Medicare Trustees data finds that Medicare physician payments increased by just 0.4% a year between 2001 and 2023. Meanwhile, the cost of running a medical practice—including office rent, employee wages and insurance premiums—went up by 47% during that same period. Today, physicians are the only Medicare providers who do not receive an annual inflationary update, hindering their ability to adequately pay staff, purchase new equipment and invest in their practices.

Struggling physician practices nationwide have already been forced to make such tough choices as refusing to accept Medicare, absorbing their practices into larger companies, and even shutting down operations entirely. As a result, some Medicare patients—like Dr. Ehrenfeld's own parents, who recently struggled to find a new physician—will increasingly be left without access to high-quality care, with the largest burden on rural and underserved areas. New cuts will erode this access even further.

"Congress has the power to prevent these cuts and save patients' access to their physicians," says Dr. Ehrenfeld. "The Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act of 2023 is a bipartisan legislative fix that will completely eliminate the cuts. I urge everyone to visit FixMedicareNow.org and contact their member of Congress. Tell them to pass H.R.6683, and protect Medicare patients."

To learn more, visit FixMedicareNow.org.

Through reform, advocates say that the Medicare system will better meet the needs of patients and physicians, and safeguard access to high-quality care.

Proteger el acceso de los estadounidenses a una atención médica de alta calidad

(StatePoint) Aceptar Medicare se está volviendo cada vez más insostenible para los médicos, lo que ha resultado en que muchos consultorios se nieguen a aceptar nuevos pacientes de Medicare, o incluso a cerrar sus puertas. Al mismo tiempo, se prevé que millones de estadounidenses adicionales dependerán de Medicare en los próximos años. Con una reducción del 3,37% a Medicare impuesta a principios de este año, la Asociación Médica Estadounidense (AMA) dice que se necesitan reformas para proteger el acceso de millones de estadounidenses a sus médicos.

"Después de tres años consecutivos de recortes en Medicare, los médicos y los pacientes se encuentran en una encrucijada. Los médicos se han enfrentado a reducciones en los pagos de Medicare en cada uno de los últimos cuatro años, además de los costos de práctica en fuerte aumento y las cargas de casi cuatro años de COVID-19. Continuar por este camino es insostenible para muchos médicos, especialmente aquellos que trabajan en consultorios privados más pequeños", dice Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH, presidente de la AMA.

Un análisis de la AMA de los datos de los Fideicomisarios de Medicare encuentra que los pagos a los médicos de Medicare aumentaron solo un 0,4% al año entre 2001 y 2023. Mientras tanto, el costo de administrar una práctica médica (incluido el alquiler de la oficina, los salarios de los empleados y las primas de seguro) aumentó un 47% durante ese mismo periodo. Hoy en día, los médicos son los únicos proveedores de Medicare que no reciben una actualización anual sobre la inflación, lo que dificulta su capacidad para pagar adecuadamente al personal, comprar nuevos equipos e invertir en sus consultas.

Los consultorios médicos en dificultades en todo el país ya se han visto obligados a tomar decisiones tan difíciles como negarse a aceptar Medicare, absorber sus consultorios en empresas más grandes e incluso cerrar sus operaciones por completo. Como resultado, algunos pacientes de Medicare (como los propios padres del Dr. Ehrenfeld, que recientemente tuvieron dificultades para encontrar un nuevo médico) se quedarán cada vez más sin acceso a una atención de alta calidad, y la mayor carga recaerá en las zonas rurales y desatendidas. Los nuevos recortes erosionarán aún más este acceso.

"El Congreso tiene el poder de evitar estos recortes y preservar el acceso de los pacientes a sus médicos", dice el Dr. Ehrenfeld. "La Ley de Preservación del Acceso de las Personas Mayores a los Médicos de 2023 es una solución legislativa bipartidista que eliminará por completo los recortes. Insto a todos a que visiten FixMedicareNow.org y se comuniquen con su miembro del Congreso. Dígales que aprueben H.R.6683 y protejan a los pacientes de Medicare".

Para obtener más información, visite FixMedicareNow.org.

A través de la reforma, los defensores dicen que el sistema Medicare satisfará mejor las necesidades de los pacientes y los médicos, y salvaguardará el acceso a una atención de alta calidad.

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6TH ANNUAL
DETROIT
CONSTRUCTION
CONFERENCE

Friday , January 19, 2024
2:00pm-6:00pm

The Carhartt Workshop Registration Required
5800 Cass Ave. 2nd Floor
Detroit, MI 48202

Friday's portion of the conference will allow general contractors to network with sub-contractors for a Speed Networking experience.
Space is Limited. Please register in advance.

To register for Friday's Event, visit:
https://bit.ly/SpeedNetworkDCC2024

Saturday , January 20, 2024
9:00am-1:00pm

Wayne County Community College District Eastern Campus
5901 Conner, Detroit, MI 48213

Saturday's event will include more networking chances with various City partners and presentations will focus on the specific opportunities to do business with the City of Detroit & Detroit Land Bank Authority.

To register for Saturday's Event, visit:
https://bit.ly/DCC2024

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